

# A LETTER

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FROM

82431

A GENTLEMAN in TOWN

To his FRIEND in the Country,

Relating to the

Royal Infirmary

of EDINBURGH.

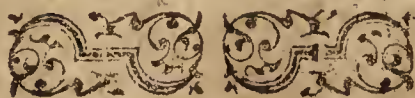
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*For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me. Mat. xxv. 35, 36.*

*He that hath pity upon the poor, lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given, will he pay him again. Prov. xix. 17.*

*He which soweth sparingly, shall reap also sparingly: and he which soweth bountifully, shall reap also bountifully. Let every man give, not grudgingly: for God loveth a chearful giver. 2 Cor. ix. 6, 7.*

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EDINBURGH, Printed in the Year M. DCC. XXXIX.



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S I R,



Observe with Pleasure, from your Letters, the earnest Desire you have to be informed of every thing relating to the ROYAL INFIRMARY here, which you find has furnished so many Paragraphs in the News Papers this Season. It is indeed a Noble, a Glorious Undertaking worthy of ITS NAME, and it is becoming every Man who is possessed of the amiable Character of a LOVER OF MANKIND, to wish to know its Use, its Progress, and, if it is reasonable, to hope that it will be carried on, to its wish'd for Perfection. I know you desire this from an honest Intention to promote it to the utmost of your Power, in your own Country, and where ever else your Affairs call you; I cannot therefore count it a Trouble or a Task to satisfy you all I can in it; no, Sir, I obey you with Delight.

SUCH an Hospital, for the entertaining, comforting and curing of distressed and diseased Poor, was much wanted, and long wished for here, where we are possessed of very particular Advantages for making it extensive and useful. Mr. *John Monro* Chirurgion made a commendable Attempt some Years ago to give some Life and Spirit to the Design; but the Honour of setting it on Foot, and bringing it to bear, was reserved for our ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, a Society of Gentlemen, who, for many Years past, have done great Honour to their Country, Men of great Reputation in the Science they profess, and of universal Benevolence to Mankind.

IT was under the Presidentship of that great and good Man Dr. *John Drummond*, whose Labours for its Advancement, while he was able to come abroad, were incessant; That in the Year 1726, they laid hold of a favourable Opportunity for procuring Subscriptions to carry it on; and, when they had a Capital of L. 2000 subscribed to it, they prevailed with the Contributors to make a Trial what could be done upon the Interest thereof. Accordingly a Management was established, which still subsists, a little House was hired, and opened in the Year 1729, large enough only to accommodate what Patients the Interest of this small Stock could maintain; the Physicians and Surgeons have attended it *gratis*, and the Surgeons have given the Medicines ever since; God has



remarkably blest their Endeavours with Success, for about 600 Patients have been cured in this little House during this Space, and many of them are now become useful Members of Society, who must have otherwise languished out the poor Remains of their Life in Misery, and finished it in Anguish; such has been the wonderful Success under God, that very few, scarce one of a hundred have died under their Hands.

THE Undertaking gave so much Satisfaction to the Publick, that the Capital has received some Addition every Year it has subsisted; this encouraged the Managers to apply for a Charter, in order to establish and perpetuate the same; this his present Majesty was graciously pleased to grant. It erects the Contributors into a Corporation, with perpetual Succession, by the Name of *The Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh*, and it bears Date the 25th, of *August* 1736.

By the Charter the Infirmary is put under the Government of twenty Managers, *viz.* The Lord Provost of *Edinburgh* for the Time being; and in his Absence the Dean of Guild, the President of the Royal College of Physicians for the Time being, and in his Absence the Vice-President, the Deacon-Conveener of the Trades of *Edinburgh* for the Time being, four out of the Royal College of Physicians, whereof two of the Professors of Medicine in the University, when there are any such at the Time, the Professor of Anatomy, if there be any such at the Time, and two of the Incorporation of Surgeons, or three of them, when there is no Professor of Anatomy, one of the Senators of the College of Justice, one of the Faculty of Advocates, one of the Society of Clerks to the Signet, one of the Ministers of the Gospel at *Edinburgh*, and six others out of the Contributors to the Infirmary, under the Controul of a general Meeting of the Contributors. Of these twenty Managers, a Number not exceeding six, and not under four must be changed annually.

THIS Choice of Managers affords Numbers enough to give Weight, Character and Credit to the Administration; there are Heads enough to contrive, and Hands to execute what is fit to be done. The Publick had Reason to expect somewhat good from them, and they have answered the Expectation which was conceived of them, as well by the Publick as the Contributors to this noble Design.

THEY made a pretty full Experiment of the Thing for nine Years before they adventured on their extensive Plan. They observed



erved with Pleasure the growing Reputation of the Undertaking, and allowed themselves to be importuned by People of all Ranks to go on with what they had very much at Heart to forward; and, after mature Deliberation, exhibited to the Contributors at a general Meeting, a Plan of the House which they are now carrying on, and which has received an unanimous Approbation.

THEY form'd their Plan extensive enough to enable them to entertain, and to give Hopes of relieving not only the many Sick and distressed here in and about *Edinburgh*, particularly Men and Women Servants in Families falling ill of acute Diseases, but all such as can be brought from Places more remote; yea every Person in Distress who shall offer themselves to the House, from whatever Place they come. This is the chief Design of the Undertaking, tho' it will also answer other very valuable Purposes.

THEY had Reason to hope this Hospital would be at least as well looked after by Physicians as any in *Europe*, and upon the most humane generous Foot, seeing the Royal College, which never consists of less than twenty or thirty, have bound themselves by a Deed of their College to a daily Attendance on the Patients in Courses, gratis.

OUR Physicians have been justly thought very eminent in their Professions, and our Surgeon Apothecaries no less so; and their Incorporation, which generally consists of thirty or forty Members, have not only brought themselves under an Obligation to attend the Hospital in Classes, under the Direction of the Managers, but likewise to furnish all the Medicines to it gratis.

EDINBURGH has, for Time out of Mind, been in great Reputation for educating Youth in the Art of Surgery; the Army, the Royal Navy, the Merchant Ships, our Colonies abroad, and many Places in *Britain* and *Ireland*, are in a great Measure supplied with Gentlemen of that Employment educated here; thence it is, that the Apprentices and Students in Surgery here, are seldom under 200 in Number, who of Course will serve for so many Assistants in this Hospital.

OUR University, where all the liberal Sciences are well taught, and where the Students of every Denomination, without Regard to any Distinction of Sect or Party, are all equally well lookt upon, has of late the Addition made to it of the Professions of the Theory and Practice of Medicine, Chymie, Botany, and the *Materia Medica* and Anatomy. These Chairs, I believe, I may say with Truth, are filled with Professors as eminent in their Way as



any in *Europe*. What seems to be some Proof of the Truth of this Assertion is, That even before the Death of that great and excellent Professor *Boerhave*, many young Gentlemen from *England* and *Ireland* came here to attend their Colleges, and since his Death the Numbers increase, as their Reputation every Year grows.

THIS House appeared to the Managers to be the only Thing wanting to render *Edinburgh* a complete Place for the Education of Youth to Physick and Surgery. The larger the Building is, the greater Number of distressed Poor may be relieved in it; and the Students attending it, from the Number and Variety of Cases, will reap the greater Advantage from their Observation and Experience.

IT was hoped that when *England* and *Ireland* came to be informed of the Generosity and Extensiveness of this Design, which is formed with an Intention to relieve every Mortal in Distress, without Distinction, who offer themselves to the House for Help, and of whose Cure the Physicians and Surgeons have any Ground of Hope; and at the same time came to be sensible, that even many of their own Physicians and Surgeons, may come to get a valuable Part of their Education here, they would think well of it; and from the generous, open hearted Disposition of these Nations, great Assistance to forward the Work has been with good Reason expected, and may probably exceed our Hopes.

THE Managers were very sensible, that the Interest of the present Capital, together with the other Funds which they have now in View, will not near answer the Expence of maintaining the Number of the distressed which the House, when finished, will be able to contain: But as the Revenue they have in View, may for some time be sufficient to maintain, it may be, from 100 to 120 Patients or more, they thought it was not altogether unreasonable to hope that the Number of the Patients, and the extraordinary Cures which from time to time may be performed in the House, would satisfy all charitably disposed Persons, how many valuable Blessings to the Poor may be conveyed by this Beneficence, and influence them to increase its Capital, whereby in Process of Time, and it may be much sooner than is expected, the Revenue of the House will be so encreased, as to be able to entertain the full Number of Patients it can lodge.

THO', as the Plan of the Undertaking is laid, it may be more extensive than the Charity of this Part of the Kingdom is able to carry thro'. I cannot disapprove of the Conduct of the Managers in it; it was not with them as with a Man building a House for himself,



self, who is to consider his Funds and yearly Income, and adapt his Project to his Circumstances. No, the Undertaking was Great and Good, such as must be acceptable to all the valuable Part of Mankind. It was prudent so to contrive the Plan as to make it capable of being executed piece-meal, and to execute it with Discretion as Funds came in, that is, to finish one Part of the Building, and bring it into Use, in Preference to the carrying on the building of the next Part, which could not have been of immediate Service. And it was also prudent in them to contrive it so, as to leave Room for Providence in time to enable them or their Successors to carry it on to its wish'd for Extent. They had a Dependance for Assistance on the well known frank, generous, charitable Disposition of our Neighbours in *England* and *Ireland*; and it is with great Pleasure I can tell you, the Managers are not disappointed in it. The Thing is but beginning to be known in these Parts, yet in *London*, very handsome Donations have been given, by which the Work has been greatly forwarded.

SEVERAL Gentlemen there are still generously solliciting for Donations to it, and a Beginning is given to the same thing in several other Places in *England* and *Ireland*, and they have great Hopes of considerable Assistance from these Applications.

WHAT I have said, no Doubt, has raised your Curiosity to know what sort of a House they are building, what Number of Patients it is to contain, how much of it is built, and when it will be ready to take in Patients.

As to these, The Managers purchased a very convenient Area to build their House upon, finely situated. The Plan agreed to is a Body of a House 206 Feet long from East to West, fronting North, with two Wings or Jambs, extending northward from the Ends of the Body 70 Feet each.

THE Building consists of a Ground-floor, and three Stories over it. The first three Stories are each 11 Feet high, and the fourth Story 8 Feet high, and over the middle Part of the Building is an Attick, rising a Story higher than the rest of the House.

THE whole House 25 Feet broad within the Walls, except in the Center, where it is 36 Feet broad.

IN the Ground-story the middle Part of the Building is taken up with a Hall and great Stair-case, possessing a Space of 30 by 36 Feet. There is also 12 Cells for Lunaticks, all vaulted. There is a large Kitchen, with Larder, Pantry and Cellars, of Size suitable to answer their End for the Number that the House can contain, with



a Laundry and Washing-house, a Mistress's Room and Keeper's Room, also two Rooms for Nurses, with what is further necessary for their Conveniency; a cold and hot Bagnio, &c.

IN the second Story, the middle Part of the House over the Hall below is the Managers Room, being 30 by 20 Feet; to the East of that Room is a Gallery of 81 Feet long and 25 broad, with Beds placed on each Side, with a Closet at the Head of each Bed. The Areas betwixt the Beds are each 6 by 8 Feet, and lighted by a large Window. These Beds are so disposed, that the drawing of a Curtain at the Foot of them forms a kind of Room, where two Beds front one another. In each of the four Corners of this Gallery is a little Fire-room, with one Bed for Patients who require Warmness; so that this Floor contains 24 Beds in all. In the Wing or Jamb projecting 70 Feet from the east End of the above Gallery, is a Stair-case adjoining the aforesaid Gallery, and is central for it and the Remainder of that Jamb, in which are 12 Beds, disposed as the former, whereof four are in Fire-rooms for the Conveniency of the Sick. The Stair-case has a large Lant in the Middle, by which it is proposed that a Patient may be carried by a Pully in a Chair to all the different Galleries, to prevent the racking Pain that might otherwise be occasioned in being carried up or down Stairs. Thus one Floor from the Middle of the House eastward contains 36 Beds, and so the two Stories over Head, *viz.* the third and fourth, contain 72 Beds. These Stories being disposed in the same Manner as that above described, making 108 Beds for Men, besides three Fire-rooms on the Front of the Stair-case, designed for the Accommodation of the Servants who attend the Sick.

ON the west End of the Hall, or middle Part of the House, there is the same Conveniency and Extent of Room, and disposed in the same Manner in all the three Stories as the former, containing 108 Beds, designed only for the Accommodation of Women, with three Rooms on the Front of the Stair on that Side, being one in each Story, for accommodating the Women-servants who attend the Sick. As the Beds are designed only to hold one Person, the whole House contains 216 Beds whereof 48 with Chimneys, besides the Cells for Lunaticks.

IN these different Wards there is a Gallery formed of nine Feet wide, free from the Beds, at the Ends of which Gallery are large Chimneys for the common Benefit of the whole.

IN the third Story of the middle Part of the House are Treasurer's,



rer's, Secretary and Accomptant's Offices, and a Surgery; and in the fourth Story thereof, with the Attick over it, and a Dome-roof over the whole of the middle Part, is contained the Operation Room, being a Cube of 30 Feet, to be put in the Shape of a Theatre, with Benches rising on three Sides thereof from the Floor, and Galleries above, so disposed that 2 or 300 Students and Apprentices may conveniently see any Operation performed without disturbing those who perform it. To this Operation Room there is very easy and convenient Access by the great Stair which goes the Height of the Operation Room, and by which no Disturbance can be given to the Patients in the House. This Part of the Building containing the Hall, Managers Room above, Treasurer's, Secretary and Accomptant's Offices, and Surgery in the third Story, and Operation Room in the fourth, being all separate from the rest of the House by Stone Walls, prevents not only the Noise that would be occasioned at the Performance of an Operation, but also makes a proper Division betwixt the Men and Womens Wards, and answering the same End as if they were distinct Buildings.

THE Building, so far as it is carried on, is judged by every Body of Skill to be substantially and well executed. It has no hewn Work but what was thought absolutely necessary for Strength as well as Decency, *viz.* Corners, a Bale and Belting. This last became absolutely necessary in order to make a proper Intake upon the Wall above the first Story, as the Wall is thicker in that Story than in those above, which was thought a Security for the Building. The Doors, Windows, and a small Tabling on the Top of the Walls, are likewise done in cut Stone, but plain.

As the middle Part of the House is more properly a College than an Hospital, and as the whole must in Time prove the Glory of this Country, some of the Contributors, who gave liberal Donations towards carrying on the Building, signified to the Managers, that the ornamenting the middle Part of the House, where the Hall, Operation Room, &c. are, on the Front, would be agreeable to them, judging that such a Stretch of Building must have a poor Appearance without decently dressing that Part which first attracts the Eye; and therefore the Managers thought it their Duty to comply with the Contributors Desire, and accordingly have raised a Tetrastyle of three Quarter-columns, and two Pilasters of the Ionick Order, finished with a proper Entablature and Attick



Attick over it, all standing upon a Rustick Basement, which, with the rest, gives Satisfaction to all that see it.

THIS noble and pious Undertaking, when it is brought to its designed Perfection, on the Supposition that one Patient with another stays six Weeks in the House, gives the delightful Prospect that above 1700 may be taken care of in it annually. It may be the Number may be much greater, its being able to accommodate so many at once, whereof some must be daily going out, leaves little Room to doubt that there will always be a sufficient Number of empty Beds to accommodate every Patient that offers.

THE Managers being restricted by the Charter from applying any Part of their Capital towards the Building, made their Addresses to the several Societies in *Edinburgh*, and to the general Assembly of the Church of *Scotland*, for a national Collection to enable them to carry on the Building; and having received a considerable Sum from Collections at the Doors of the Churches, and Episcopal Meetings in *Edinburgh*, other Places, and Donations from private Persons and different Societies there, for carrying on the Building, they, in *August* 1738, laid the Foundation of the east End of the Body of the House, which will accommodate 72 Patients. The Estimate of this is about *L.* 1600. They also carried on the Stair-case of the Wing adjoining to it at the same Time.

THIS was all they ventured on at first; but that the Students might from this reap the Advantage of attending on the House, and the House the Benefit of their *Honorary*, they agreed to fit up an interim Theatre for Operations in this Part of the Building; however they soon found the Undertaking was in such Esteem with the Publick, that there was no Reason to fear the Want of Money to carry on the middle Part of the Building, where the Theatre is designed, and therefore, with the unanimous Approbation of a general Meeting of Contributors, they founded this in the Spring following. What they founded last Year is roofed, and the middle Part is in such Forwardness that two or three Weeks of good Weather would have enabled them to put the Roof on it also.

It is surprizing to me to find the Building so far advanced; sure the Managers deserve well of the Publick for their Application to it. Six of them are vested by the Board with the Care of every Thing relating to the Building, by the Name of the *Building Committee*; one or other of these weekly controul the Overseers Bill of Expence for Wages, Materials, &c. and one or other of these  
Gentle-



Gentlemen is for the most Part overseeing the Masons and Labourers.

ONE Thing I cannot omit telling you; besides their rational Grounds of Hope to be enabled to carry on the Building, the Managers had a just Dependence on Providence to provide the Means, and their Expectations have been fully answered. That Text has had a beautiful Accomplishment in this Instance, *The liberal Man deviseth liberal Things, and by liberal Things shall he stand.* Their Scheme was liberal, the Publick have thought it so, and have enabled them to go on with it with Spirit; for when the Plan was resolved on, they had not *L. 50* in their Treasurer's Hands applicable to the Building; and yet, from the Time they founded the Building, they have been always enabled to clear off their weekly Bill of Expence every *Saturday* Night, which has amounted in the Building-season to *L. 35* at a Medium, besides paying for two Loadings of Timber. It is true, that their Funds have been often at so low a Pass, that when one Week's Bill was cleared, they had not Money enough left to pay the next; but a bountiful Providence always interposed, and sent them a Supply time enough to answer the next Demand. One Instance among others, was a Remittance sent them from *London* by the celebrated Mrs. *May Drummond*, of *L. 83*, collected among her Friends there, which was but one of many good Offices she has done to the Infirmary. Let Mankind learn from this, in every Act of Mercy, in every charitable Office to others, to trust *that* GOD who waits to be gracious unto us.

BEFORE what is built can be fit for taking in Patients, there is yet much to be done, which must cost a great deal of Money; the Ground-floor is to be paved, the other Floors laid, the House is to be fashed and plaistered, and all the Furniture of the House of every kind is to be provided, such as Bed-steads, Beds, Blankets, Sheets and other Linnen, all the Kitchen-furniture, Chimnies, Locks, &c. and for all this there is not at present any Money in the Treasurer's Hands, nor to pay for a large Parcel of Timber, for which they are still in Debt.

IN order to deafen the Noise of the Students attending the Physicians and Surgeons in the Galleries overhead, and to guard against Fire, Vermin and Stench, it is proposed to lay all the Floors of the Galleries between the Beams with Brick Arches resting on the Scantlings, to bring these to a Plain a-top with liquid Mortar, and to pave above this with unglaz'd Dutch Tile.



It is true this is much more expensive than a Floor of Boards, but it is necessary, and well judged in the Managers; they act in this by the uniform Rule of their Conduct, which is to execute every thing in the frugalest manner, but to spare no necessary useful Expence any more than they are sparing of *their Labour, Attention and Attendance*, to compleat the extraordinary Service which may, and, under GOD, must necessarily result from this great Design.

To fit up and furnish this Part of the House, will be the Managers first Care, that Patients may be taken into it as soon as possible; and if the Donations come in during the Winter so well as that they find they will have a Surplus of Money, after defraying this Charge, they will go on with the West End of the Body of the House as far as they can; and it is much to be wished that they may be enabled to go on with that Part of the House soon, because the Hospital cannot accommodate the Patients labouring under different Ailings with the Conveniency that were to be wished, by keeping not only the Men and Women, but even the Patients labouring under acute Diseases, in a separate manner, consistent with Decency and Conveniency, for want of proper Accommodation.

BUT that they may not be wanting to the Design, they have done all that is in their Power; for I am told they have made Application to several Corporations in *England*, to our Colonies Abroad, to some Places in *Ireland*, and to our Countrymen settled in *France, Holland, Sweden, Denmark and Poland*; they are also endeavouring to get the Synods in *Scotland* to make a Collection from House to House for it. What Pity will it be, if these honest Attempts to carry on the most generous and valuable Undertaking that ever was set on Foot by any Country, should not meet with answerable Success.

As they keep a fair Record of all the Donations to the Stock of their Hospital, so they do also of all the Donations they get in Money towards carrying on the Building, of all the Carriages, Presents of Stone, Lime, Timber, Slates, Glais and *gratis* Work they get. Every Contributor, yea every Body whatever has Access to see it. I have, but I cannot be particular in giving you the Names of the Persons who stand in this honourable List. The Members of *Mary's* Chapel, considered as one Body, have a very commendable Rank; both Masters and Journeymen share in this Merit; the Managers do not pay the Journeymen any more Wages than a Master-Wright  
or



or Mason would pay them, whereby the Masters Profit on the Wages is saved to the Work; and the Journeymen gave several Days Work *gratis*. Many of the Wrights have made Presents of Sashes ready made, others of them are making Windows for it; the Master-Masons give Attendance, and the Journeymen work; three of the Slaters dress and lay on the Slates; the Glaziers offered to glaze the Windows, but were excused from giving any more than their Workmanship, by a generous Present from *Newcastle*, from the Company of Broad-glass Owners there, of as much Glass as glazes all that's yet built. In short, it is the Zeal of this Corporation in the Beginning of this Undertaking, which has raised a Spirit in this Country, to vye with one another to help it forward, and it does not yet flag; and, by the good Providence of God, it is to be hoped it never will.

THE Proprietor and Tacksmen of the *Eisdale* Quarry give all the Slates now wanted, considerable Presents of Timber have been given by the Merchants of *Leith* and Messrs. *Falls* of *Dumbar*, 600 good Dales have been sent from *Strowan Robertson*, many Carriages are given by the Farmers in the Neighbourhood, no less than 600 by his Grace the Duke of *Argyle's* Tenants in *Duddingston*, and the Spirit still encreases. Thence it is that the Managers have been able to build hitherto much below the Estimate, of the first Expence.

WHAT greater Honour can any Man have than to have his Name standing recorded in the List of Donors to this glorious Work; must not his Posterity be the better looked on for it. Let every Man of Quality, every Gentleman, every Burgher of Condition, seriously lay it to Heart how acceptable it must be to their Posterity, to find the Names of their Ancestors honourably recorded in it: The List must be published; the Publick expects it: But I hope the Managers will not do it soon, to give Time to many Persons who does not yet stand in it, to purchase to themselves an honourable Rank there. The Managers are only Trustees for the Publick, for carrying on this Great and Good Work; they do *exert themselves* to the utmost of their Power, and as far as it is possible for Men of their Business to do; they endeavour to procure Donations towards it: But it is utterly impossible for them to apply to every Individual. It is therefore hoped that every Christian, who knows what is doing in it, will think it his Duty chearfully to send his Donation to the Treasurer of the Infirmary, without waiting to be asked for it. Should the Managers, after so hopeful



a Beginning, be obliged to discontinue the Work for want of Money, how unpleasant must the Reflexion be to every Mortal, who has it in his Power to help it foreward, and has not done it, or has not done it to the Extent he might, without hurting his Family, to have it to say to himself, I might have helped it forward, and did not; and sure too many in *Scotland* have Reason to make this Reflexion. It is much to be wished that every Body would in time make the Application to themselves; if the Spirit once flags, and the Managers are forced to give over the Work, it is not to be expected it will be easily set a going again.

FROM what I have said, many things must have cast up to you, to give you Hopes, that if the House is once built, and fitted up for the Reception of Patients, Providence will raise up Funds for maintaining them: But as you desire to know from me what I think about it, I will satisfy you in that too, as far as I can.

I take it for granted you are by this Time persuaded that no Hospital in *Europe* is so well served in Physicians and Surgeons, either for Number or Eminence, as this one has the Prospect of being. Every Body knows, that in Hospitals where the Patients are very numerous, and are attended by few Physicians and Surgeons, the Care taken of the Patients is but slight. I am of Opinion the Number which this House can contain must always be well taken care of, the Physicians and Surgeons being so much more numerous than in any other Hospital. You will also expect of the Managers, that they will take great care to have their House, and every Thing about the Patients, in such Order, as to give Pleasure to every Body who comes to see it: This will naturally make Mankind in Love with the Undertaking, and procure Donations to it, to render it the more extensive.

CURES performed on People coming to it from distant Places, by the Return of these Patients to their own Places of Residence, must spread its Reputation, and dispose the People of those Countries, who have not Access to see the House from time to time, to add to its Capital.

THE Capital is at present about *L.* 5000, and the Managers are in hopes of its being considerably increased, soon, by a Grant from his Majesty.

IT is proposed, that every Student who attends the Hospital shall pay a small Honorary of it may be two Guineas a Year, for the Privilege of seeing and observing the several Prescriptions of the Physicians, and the Dressings and Operations of the Surgeons, and



of perusing the Register kept in the House, of the Disease and Progress of the Cure of every Patient. This, it is thought, will bring 2 or 300 *L.* in annually.

It is hoped, that a Collection will be made at the Doors of the Churches, and of the Episcopal Meetings in *Edinburgh*, for the Support of the House, annually, from whence a handsome Sum will arise.

It is not doubted but the Directresses of the Ladies Assembly will continue annually to give an Assembly for the Benefit of the House, as my Lady *Orbiston*, the present Directress, has generously done hitherto.

It is also hoped, that the Directors of the honourable Musical Society will continue to give Concerts for its Benefit.

MANY of the Brewers in *Edinburgh* generously promise to supply the House with Malt.

THE Coal Masters upon this Frith, and around this City, it is hoped, will give their Coals, which the Farmers will carry *gratis*. And it is hoped, that the Noblemen and Gentlemen of Estates in the North-country, will supply the House with Meal. These Articles will lessen the Expence of the House considerably.

THERE are several other Projects of lessening the Expence, and adding to the Revenue, which I do not think it proper to mention now; these I have mentioned, however precarious they may seem, make it at least probable, that the Providence which has greatly outdone the Managers Expectations about it hitherto, will continue to make it the Object of its tender Care, and make them the Mean of carrying on the Design in its projected extensive Usefulness, till the House is endowed with a Capital, the Interest whereof will be fully sufficient to answer all its Demands; and when that Event happens, no doubt the Corporation will cease to be any longer a Load on other Charities.

I have been insensibly drawn in to make this much longer than I designed, from the Hope I have you will greatly improve it for the Service of the Infirmary. It is but a little of your Eloquence, when it is warmed with your tender Compassion for all your Fellow-creatures in Distress, that is wanting to convince every one Mortal you talk to about it, that to have it in his Power to help the Work forward, and not to do it, is a virtual renouncing of Christianity. *Whoso bath this World's Goods, and seeth his Brother have Need, and shutteth up his Bowels of Compassion from him.*



him, how dwelleth the Love of GOD in him? is a Question, which, if every Christian puts to himself with Application, I am sure the Work will not be stopp'd, and the House in good Time will be fully endowed.

ALL I have further to add is, Mr. *Andrew Drummond* Banker at *Charing-cross* receives Donations for it in *London*, Mr. *David Spence* Secretary to the Bank, and Treasurer to the Corporation, receives in *Edinburgh*, and in *Dublin* Mr. *John Barclay* Merchant there.

I am, &c.

PHILASTHENES.

The present Managers of the ROYAL INFIRMARY are,

- THE Lord Provost of *Edinburgh*,
  - The Deacon-Conveener of the Trades,
  - The Lord President of the Session,
  - The Lord *Minto*,
  - The Lord *Elchies*,
  - The Lord Advocate,
  - Mr. *James Graham* of *Airth* Advocate,
  - Mr. *Patrick Cuming* Minister of the Gospel,
  - Mr. *Ronald Dunbar* Clerk to the Signet,
  - Robert Lowis*,
  - John Clerk*,
  - John Lermont*,
  - Andrew Plummer*,
  - James Alston*,
  - Mr. *Alexander Monro* Professor of Anatomy,
  - Mr. *George Cuninghame*,
  - Mr. *William Wardrop*,
  - George Drummond* Esq; Commissioner of Excise,
  - Mr. *Peter Wedderburn* Advocate,
  - Mr. *Thomas Heriot* late Dean of Gild of *Edinburgh*.
- } Senators of the College of Justice,
- } Doctors of Physick,
- } Surgeons,